



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                              |   |                             |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of  | ) | <b>MAIL STOP: ISSUE FEE</b> |
| Mohammad R. Hajaligol et al. | ) |                             |
| Application No.: 09/987,735  | ) | Group Art Unit: 1731        |
| Filed: November 15, 2001     | ) | Examiner: Carlos N. Lopez   |
| For: CIGARETTE PAPER HAVING  | ) | Confirmation No.: 7422      |
| HEAT-DEGRADABLE FILLER       | ) |                             |
| PARTICLES, AND CIGARETTE     | ) |                             |
| COMPRISING A CIGARETTE       | ) |                             |
| PAPER WRAPPER HAVING HEAT-   | ) |                             |
| DEGRADABLE FILLER PARTICLES  | ) |                             |

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Statement of Reasons for Allowance included with the Notice of Allowance dated July 1, 2004, the following statement of reasons for allowance is made:

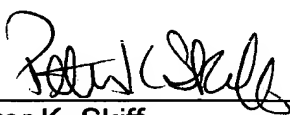
"the cited prior art fails to disclose or reasonably suggest a cigarette paper or a cigarette having a cigarette paper having heat-degradable filler particles having a mean average particle size from about 0.05 to about 1mm."

However, the claimed 0.05-1 mm particle size is only recited in Claims 1-14, 16-26, 28-31, 33-45 and 45-52. Because Claims 15, 27, 32, 46 and 53 do not recite the 0.05-1 mm range, the above-noted reasons for allowance does not apply thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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